

Listing of Claim Amendments:

1. (Currently amended) A process for ~~extracting BMP from DBM~~ determining osteoinductivity of DBM via in vitro assay of BMP, comprising the steps of:
 - providing DBM;
 - mixing a first portion of said DBM with an aqueous solution of a neutral salt and a solubilizing agent for BMP to thereby obtain ~~a~~ an unfiltered BMP containing liquid fraction; and
 - assaying BMP from the resulting liquid fraction with an ELISA kit to determine osteoinductivity without dialyzing said liquid fraction.
2. (Previously presented) The process of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - taking a second portion of said DBM and determining its osteoinductivity by implantation in an athymic nude rat;
 - the osteoinductivities of said first and second portions being substantially the same.
3. (Previously presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the solubilizing agent is collagenase.
4. (Currently amended) ~~A process for extracting BMP from DBM~~ The process of claim 1, including the step of retaining molecules having a molecular weight of less than 10kDa.
5. (Previously presented) A process for determining osteoinductivity of DBM via in vitro assay of BMP comprising:
 - providing DBM;
 - solubilizing BMP from the DBM to thereby obtain an unfiltered BMP containing solution; and
 - assaying the unfiltered BMP containing solution to determine a level of a selected BMP in the unfiltered BMP containing solution.

6. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, further comprising comparing the level of the selected BMP to data correlating BMP level with osteoinductivity to thereby predict osteoinductivity of the DBM.
7. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, wherein the assay of the selected BMP is conducted with an ELISA kit.
8. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, wherein molecules having a molecular weight of less than 10kDa are retained in the BMP containing solution during the assay for BMP.
9. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, wherein the selected BMP is BMP-2.
10. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, wherein the level of the BMP-2 in the BMP containing solution is greater than about 1400 pg/g DBM.
11. (Previously presented) The process of claim 5, further comprising:

implanting a portion of the DBM into at least one rat to determine a level of new bone growth induced by the DBM in the at least one rat, and correlating the level of new both growth in the at least one rat with the level of the selected BMP in the unfiltered DBM containing solution to thereby obtain data correlating BMP level of the DBM with osteoinductivity of the DBM.